

23 February 1959

Dr. Alvan L. Barach

Dear Al:

I am taking this long week end to clean up some correspondence which I have laid aside much too long. This includes your good letter of 19 December enclosing a quotation from a book by Bob Jungk. You may be amused to know that Bob is an old acquaintance of mine. I found him in a detention camp in Switzerland in 1943 and arranged for his release,

I have seen him from time to time since and follow his writings although I must admit I have not read them all. He sent me a copy of his Brighter Than a Thousand Suns. Naturally, I do not agree with a good deal that is in it. I have some information myself on Hitler's decision not to go ahead with the bomb. Basically, it was a question of timing. As I recall, his technicians advised him that it would take over a year for them to complete their work and Hitler said he did not have the time and decided to concentrate on other "massive destruction" weapons, in particular the V-1 and the V-2.

As to our use of the bomb, there are few men for whom I have greater admiration than Henry Stimson and few who had a keener appreciation of the moral value of the things. It was basically his recommendation and President Truman's final decision. Hence, I agree with your very interesting comment and summary.

Our mutual friend, Charley, is off on a winter visit to Egypt and possibly the Sudan. I am hoping to get down to see him in April for a week's holiday.

Sincerely,
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Allen W. Dulles
Director

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